

CELLULAR IMMUNOTHERAPY

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ABSTRACT

A novel approach to the adoptive cellular therapy of HIV infection that exploits the potentially effective cellular immune response that is initially generated in HIV-infected individuals. One aspect is a therapeutic agent useful for treating patients afflicted with 5 human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which includes, in a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier, cytokine-producing cells having been produced by the step of subjecting cytokine-producing cells derived from lymph nodes excised from patients infected with HIV to mitogenic stimulation in serum-free media for their expansion. The invention also is capable of inhibiting replication of HIV as measured by the viral load reductions exhibited 10 by patients that receive the inventive therapeutic and in inducing an immunorestorative effect in HIV patients.